



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(005092.00040)

Applicants: David Strand et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 10/616,372
Filed: July 9, 2003
Title: FLUID-HANDLING APPARATUS AND METHODS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above-identified application, we are transmitting herewith the attached:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. USPTO Form 1449 (1 pages) with 1 Reference;
3. European Search Report; and
3. Return Receipt Postcard

and hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date indicated below
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date:

April 23, 2004

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donna M. Tomaso".

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.97, applicant herewith submits the publications and/or patents shown on the attached form PTO-1449, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is being filed
(CHECK ONE):

X (1) within three (3) months of the **Filing Date** or before the mailing date of
the **First Office Action** on the merits; or

- _____ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance**, and the requisite Certification or fee under Rule 1.17(p), namely \$180.00, is included herein; or
- _____ (3) after the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance** but before the payment of the **Issue Fee**, and the requisite Certification, petition, and petition fee are included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the documents shown on the attached form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application. Copies of these documents (CHECK ONE):

 X are enclosed herewith; or

_____ are in the file of related application Serial No. 00/000,000, filed _____, and are thus not being resubmitted herein.

Early examination and allowance of the present application are respectfully solicited.

CERTIFICATION

I certify under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that the presently listed references were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application dated not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of that communication is also enclosed.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

Applicant does not believe that any fees are due by virtue of the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, if, however, any fee is required to enable this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement considered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, charge any such required fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

4/23/2004



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Attorney Docket No.
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10/616,372INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
Sheet 1 of 3

APR 26 2004

Applicants: **David Strand et al.**Filing Date: **July 9, 2003**Group: **1723**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (if appropriate)
AB	6,244,738	June 12, 2001	Yasuda et al.	366	114	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						YES	NO
AB	2001276593	09/10/01	Japan (English Abstract)			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AC	U.S. Patent Application No US 2002/0083771 A1; published July 4, 2002

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.**Copies of references not provided at the time of this submission.